# The Washington Times.

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### Politics in lown.

In the State of Iowa the Democrati constitute but a small minority. Republicanism is overwhelmingly predom inant, and it is of the most militant character. The average Iowa Republican is tronclad and rock-ribbed in his political views, and to a very great extent they are the views of a past his-Iowa Republicanism is still fighting the battles of the civil war, and aiming valiant blows at the ghost of the Southern Confederacy. The State is essentially agricultural, and Its interests are diametrically opposed to the economic and commercial policy of the Republican party. But the Iowa Republican cares nothing about that. He would rather be robbed every day of his life by the operation of some Republican law than to have the legislation of the country affirmatively touched by the descerating hand of one who participated in the civil war on the Confederate side, and still holds in kindly memory the cause in which he staked his all, and for the time being lost it.

To all intents and purposes Iown Republicanism stands today on national issues just where it stood twenty years age, except that it has abandoned the advocacy of bimetallism, and is now singing the song of gold. Ideas travel slowly among Iowa Republicans, and whatever ideas they may possess on questions of national policy are altogether subordinate to their haunting fear of the spirit of Jefferson Davis. It is not strange, therefore, that Iowa Democrats should also change their slow-going fashion, although, being in the minority and seeking to become a majority, it is but natural that they should be more progressive than their Republican neighbors.

These reflections have been suggested by the circumstance that the Iowa Democracy, in convention assembled, has just reaffirmed the Kansas City platform. There was nothing wrong in such action. The reaffirmance was in general terms, and was quite in keeping with party precedents. There was no specific reiteration of the demand for the free coinage of silver, which was the bone of contention between the extremists and the conservatives at Kan-The most pronounced gold men who attended the last National Convention of the Democracy were willing to accept a general declaration in favor of the Chicago platform, without any direct reference to the silver So the Iowa Democrats have Kansas City were willing to do. Hence the action is not to be taken to indicate a purpose once more to force the of beautification. silver issue to the front. No more does it suggest that the Iowa Democracy intends again to champion the candidacy of Mr. Bryan. The endorsement, in general terms, of last year's platform does not mean an endorsement for renomination of last year's candidates,

At the same time this action is not entirely without significance. Whenever a Democratic convention has bgnored all national issues, and confined itself to State affairs, both the Republican press and that portion of the Democratic which rejected the free silver idea have at once assumed that the action was a slap at Mr. Bryan, and they have never tired of proclaiming their exultation over it. When the Iowa Democrats reaffirm the Kansas City platform, it may just as fairly be argued that they have especially undertaken the work of championing Mr.

Bryan. But neither view is sound. There is nothing in the political situation to make it necessary either to repudiate or champion the former Democratic candidate. Twice he was honored by his party with the Presidential nomination, and twice he was beaten, although upon each occasion he received many more votes than any other Democratic candidate had ever received. But he was defeated-no matter now, how or by whom. It was clear at the close of the last campaign that of the department. He is conveniently the silver question was dead, as a political issue, and Mr. Bryan himself declared that he was not a candidate for renomination in 1904. This disposed of both the candidate and the specific issue. Clearly, then, there is no point in constantly striking at Mr. Bryan personally, or kicking at an issue that is

now a thing of the past. It was not necessary for a Democratic convention to say anything at all concerning past issues, upon which they had been to some extent divided. In o'me States where local questions loomed up big with importance, it was wise to avoid national questions entirely. It might have been well for the Iowa Democrats to do the same. Perhaps they would, had it not been for the feeling that it would be construed in certain quarters as a kick at Bryan and the principles for which he stood However that may be, it is certain that there are many Democrats who are neither willing to disparage Mr. Bryan nor admit that they were wrong in 1896 and 1900. There are far more of these than there are of those Democrats who directly or indirectly aided in the elec-tion of Mr. McKinley. There are, in fact, millions of Democrats who are not willing to admit that the sixteen to one proposition was wrong in either of the last two campaigns, but who are willing to concede that changed conditions have killed it as a political issue. It is not well or wise for Gold Democrats to hit these millions too hard, for it may lead many of them to resent it in a way that will jeopardize Democratic success

The Gold Democrats set a very pernicious example in 1896 and 1900, and with conditions too severely reversed in 1904 there may be all too many Silver Democrats ready to follow the example

In 1904.

ealmly and academically, it is eminenty proper for him to do so, but there is neither good sense nor good politics in constant flings and slurs at those six millions of voters who supported Bryan and bimetallism

## The Plea for Playgrounds.

We are extremely pleased to note the Washington not only with splendid with breathing spaces and playgrounds for children in localities where the poor abound. The argument used by the association is unanswerable, and its point and justice are so obvious that | ments. we are inclined to think the plea superfluous. In any case, without calling in question the ideas or plans of the comnissioners, they are asked to give attention to a subject which we regard as

There can be no doubt that a pleasant park and playground, equipped with sand heaps, swings, tennis courts, and the like, with shady walks and seats for mothers and babies, would be a godsend to the teeming population in certain of our sub-districts, and would conduce to health and good order. The city hoodlum is the product of conditions which give him no legitimate chance to "let off steam." When the boy of poor parents has no place to exert his activities but the stuffy schoolmanner, and then parents, neighbors, and the policeman on the beat have a common sorrow. But if each centre of congestion had its park and playground, where the babies could find shade, and the urchins engage in football and other games, the peace of the community would be promoted, as well as the health and happiness of its rising gen-

We approve of the proposition offered by the Associated Charities that schoolhouses should be placed within spacious grounds, and the grounds kept in grass and furnished with trees, Nothing more detrimental to joys or natural rights of childhood could be imagined than our present practice of confining boys and girls within jail-like buildings of offensive utilitarianism, with 'playgrounds' attached that strike the beholder as brick yards just after kilns of burning bricks have been taken off. It is feasible to remedy these evils, and, in the project to beautify Washington, to render the lives of our poor a hundred times more tolerable than they

While we are on the subject, it may not be improper to offer to the Commission a suggestion on our own account. It is possible that some citizens may hold that dogs should not be allowed in the city at all. But, since they are, and are licensed, it is the extreme of cruelty to treat them as publicly they are treated. All authorities agree that, to be healthy and free from the danger of rables, dogs need a range and running water. Within town limits they cannot have these things exactly, but there is no reason why the playground parks asked for should not include fountains in which the dogs could swim. "The done just what the Gold Democrats at merciful man is merciful to his beast," and to his kind. By all means let us be merciful to both, in arranging the plan

# More Sampson Sensations.

It was developed yesterday that all of the secret correspondence of the Fignal Corps of the Army relating to the Spanish war has mysteriously disappeared from the files of the War Department. Among the missing documents is a despatch from Colonel Allen to General Greely, announcing the presence of the Spanish squadron in Santiago Harbor. This message, it is said, was immediately communicated to Sampson, who allowed eleven days to clapse before taking any steps to meet the situation. As the original of this communication and the official endorsements which may have been made upon are very necessary for Admiral Schley's counsel to see, perhaps the public need not be surprised to know that it has been put out of the way.

The excuse is offered at the department that possibly General Greely, Chief of the Signal Corps, deliberately may have destroyed the records, with a view of concealing the names of persons used in the secret service of the United States. But nobody will be deluded by any such subterfuge. If General Greely had done a thing of that kind it would be a matter of public record, and his reasons and authority for the act would be spread upon the files in the Philippines, and will not return until November 1, so there are several weeks during which the onus may be laid upon his shoulders problematically. All the same, the American people will conclude that the Signal Service records have been stolen for a purpose, as many public records have been stolen or falsified for various but always infamous

purposes during the past few years. One would think that the Sampson scandal had become too hot for even the Administration to bear, and that it would do something in the line of an attempt to convince the country that it is no longer an active party to the conspiracy against the victor of Santiago. It would better make the effort before it is too late; because every day now adds to the proof that a plot has been hatching ever since August, 1898, to rob Admiral Schley of his laurels and transfer them to Sampson, the man of istence.

the Matanzas mule. That individual is, for him, so strangely silent, a suspicion that he is being kept under lock and key might be excusable. His reffcence at this time does not furnish any ground for objection, but, unless his Navigation Bureau friends should spirit him out of the country before the middle of September, he will not be allowed to maintain it longer.

If he can be found and placed on the stand, among other things, Sampson ticular odor, pleasant or unpleasant will have one burning question to answer. It is now understood that General Shafter is in a position to testify that, on July 2, 1898, he was informed by the French Consul in Santiago that on the next day Admiral Cervera would make an attempt to escape, and that price, of what use is the sense of smell he signaled the intelligence to Samp-

set them. A united Democracy may away from the scene of prospective fragrance of petroleum. It will recall win three years hence-a divided one trouble on the morning of July 3. to his mind wide stretches of suburban annot possibly do so. Therefore, every Sampson always has had a way of ab- property, mosquitoless, dustless, and fort should be made to close the senting himself at critical mements. breach in the ranks: If any man of and his motives in doing so may have evenings on the tennis-court, or speedeither party has an economic argument | been excellent beyond beilef, but a | ing in his automobile along the specialn opposition to bimetallism as it was chronic habit of the kind would be apt ly prepared track. The peculiar odor of dvocated in the last two Presidential to raise questions which might be fatal a railway station will be dear to him ampaigns, and desires to present it to his position as an alleged naval hero.

## Foreign Gold in Cuba.

The news comes from Cuba that the Government is losing money through the payment of duties in French and Spanish gold. The centen is said to be received by the Government at four dollars and eighty-two cents, and the louis d'or at three eighty-six, while commendation made by the United they are now worth in the market only Charities Association to the Special four dollars and seventy-nine cents and mmission for the Beautification of three dollars and eighty-three cents rethe Capital, in favor of providing spectively. This means a loss of about one-half of one per cent when the parks in its aristocratic quarters, but French and Spanish gold is exchanged for American coin. Then we are further informed that when these foreign coins rise in the market they are no longer used in making such pay-

These facts are both suggestive and instructive. They show the absurdity of much of the "economic argument" which we have heard of late years, based upon the idea that gold has a extremely important in connection with fixed and unchanging value. French bushel more than they received last year. and Spanish gold is just as pure as There is, however, considerable uncertain-American gold, and yet we hear that it ty in all such preliminary estimates. The fluctuates so that it can be used to the failure, in part, of the corn crop may redisadvantage of the United States by those having duties to pay. That is to wheat, and any advance in the price may those having duties to pay. That is to a say, a man can go to a bank and buy a say, a man can go to a bank and buy a Many unforeseen conditions both at home napoleon d'or for three dollars and and abroad may affect the price. But eighty-three cents, and pay it right we know that the wheat crop is a spien-over to the United States for three did one and this is a circumstance for

And these changes are not confined to Cuba by any means. The rates of exchange between New York and London, room and the dusty street, what is in I the world's money centres are constanthim is likely to come out in a disorderly ly changing. Sometimes an English he laid before President McKinley all the overeign is worth four dollars and eighty-nine or ninety cents in New York, and sometimes it is worth no more than four eighty or eighty-one. or the Bank of France. It all depends upon the condition of the money market, and where the gold happens to be cost something to get it to the mint, saying nothing of the delay.

When the Royal Gold and Silver Commission a few years ago investigated the reasons for the change in the relative value of gold and silver, it was shown, and so stated by the commission in its final report, that during the period of seventy years between 1805

sults from purely artificial regulations and laws. When we take a broader view of the subject and consider gold in its relation to commodities and property generally, it is governed in its value as absolutely by the law of supply and demand as is corn or wheat or hay.

# The Smells of Civilization.

A contractor in Sayville, Long Island, is using petroleum to lay the dust on the roads, and avers that it is far superior to water. This liquid is increasingly in use as a preventive of the mosquito plague, and if coal oll is to assat! nerves. Is the entire country to be made to smell like an oil town in Pennsylvania during a boom?

Taking everything into consideration, seems as if it would be wise for the civilized man of the future to evolve his nose into the condition of a rudimentary and disused organ. What with the various odors which seem to be inseparably associated with civilized life-the smells of soap factories, rallway stations, bad tobacco, awful varieties of imitation perfumery, and the indescribable fragrance of garbage c ematories, the sense of smell is coming to be anything but a blessing. Scientists say that this sense was originally intended to be of use in warning the possessor away from dangerous places and ob human presence, and retreats to its at St. P. E. I. lair; and an unpleasant odor is generally a sign of unsanitary conditions in the neighborhood. But if one must live in the neighborhood, and the conditions are necessary to civilization, of what use is it to have a nose which shall continually give unheeded warnings? seems as if the most sensible courd in the which nature could take would be to evolve the olfactory nerves out of ex-

Undoubtedly, in a state of nature, the sense of smell is a source of great pleasure as well as of discomfort. Most people will recognize the fact that a memory, pleasant or unpleasant, is brought to the mind more quickly by a familiar odor than by either sight or hearing. Who has not felt the peculiar sensation produced by the smell of spring in the air, or the scent of newmown hay or violets? And who has not some powerful association with a parconnected with some event in years gone by? But in a civilization where markind is constructed to dwell in cities, where the scent of flowers has to be bought with money, and that of the woods and fields is not to be had at any

Possibly, instead of disappearing, it son. The latter, therefore, will be asked will be reconstructed. The civilized to tell why, knowing this, he hastened man of the future may luxuriate in the will be reconstructed. The civilized

quiet. It will be associated with happy because it recalls his return from the waste of a deserted country where was neither cigar shop, laundry, nor restaurant. All the variegated smells of the city will, in short, mean civilization to him, and like Ortheris in his madness, he will suffer when temporarily exiled from the great population centres of the world, because he is "sick for London again; sick for the sounds of 'er, and the sights of 'er and the stinks of 'er; orange-peel and hasphalte and gas comin' in over Vaux'all Bridge," In short, the only person who thoroughly enjoys the manifold smells of our pres ent civilization is the born cockney. His nose has already been reconstructed. Perhaps he is the advance guard of progress in that respect.

The estimate is officially made that for our exports of wheat will bring one hun-dred and seventy-five million dollars-nine millions more than was realized last year. It is also estimated that the farmers will average four self-congratulation. A good wheat crop is always a good thing, regardless of cstimates of prices or quantities to be exported.

Paris and Berlin, and between all of Secretary Hay is back, after a quick facts and complications of the isthmian and South American situation. We are not advised as to whether a definite policy was agreed upon or not. Such a more than four eighty or eighty-one.

The price of American eagles varies F. V. Greene has been consulted. Perconsiderably at the Bank of England haps he may have been.

The terror that walks by night, or, rather rages, on a certain tramway con-necting the Capital with a suburban reneeded the most. Gold in the Klondike sort has attracted the unfavorable atten-is never worth quite so much as gold at tion of the Police Court. Judge Mills the San Francisco Mint, because it will declares that riotous conduct on street cars hereafter will be punished severely It would be well for uproarious parties of the "Junction" to keep this and ment in mind.

We are sorry to say that the hopes of arbitration in the steel strike difficulty, which had been widely entertained in Pittsburg for several days, appear now to be dissipated. Again the situation in-

Archdeacon Wilberforce as the canon-in-residence at Westminster Abbey. Frau Cosima Wagner's petition to the German Reichstag to prolong the Bai-reuth monopoly of "Parsifal" does not seem to meet with much favor. The apsigned by Humperdinck, Niemann

and other eminent men, was circulated in Baircuth during the recent festival, but few of the visitors signed it. Corporal Ommundsen, winner of th Queen's prize for marksmanship at this rear's Bisley meeting, is only twentyfour years old, but is considered to be easily the finest rifle shot in the United

Cardinal Gibbons has been received with the most distinguished honors in Ireland. our nostrils everywhere, on land and The mayor of Londonderry entertained water, indoors and out, country living him at a reception last week. The Cardis likely to become rather impracticable to people with sensitive olfactory he had a long talk.

France has two centenarian artists, M. le Sourd-Bouregard, a painter, and M. Adolphe Thiae of Bordeaux, an architect, both born in 1896. M. le Sourd-Bouregard studied under David and made a crayon sketch of Napoleon's great "Champ de Mai" fete in 1815.

The death of Dr. Edward S. Morley, th elder and only brother of John Morley, M. P., removes a picturesque figure from the social life of Lancashire, where he had long been conspicuous for his charitable enterprise, his devotion to legitimate sport, and his interest in politics. Politically he was directly opposed to his famous brother, but the two were always the best of friends and the closest of com-

who has recently completed his post grad Rome, with high honors, is one of th jects. The wild animal detects the smell of gunpowder or the traces of human presence, and retreats to its

Jacob Peirce, a Grand Army veteral who died a few days ago in Denver, Col. was known in Ohio in the years preceding the civil war es a director of the "underground railway," and through him many a slave was helped to freedom beyond the Canadian frontier. His principal work during the war was as wardnatter of all the Union hospitals in Nashway. Tenn. In the line of his duty it fell to his lot to close the eyes of more than 1,000 boys in blue.

P. Cuneo, editor of the "Wyandot Re ublican," Upper Sandusky, Ohio, has left for Turin, Italy, to assume the dutie of Consul for the United States Govern ment, to which position he was recently appointed by President McKiniey. Mr. Canco is said to be the only italian in this country who is the publisher of at English newspaper. He was born in Naples, and has not seef his native land since he left it fifty-two years ago. It is related of Hall Caine, the novelist

that he once worked in the Laxey lengthings, in the Manx Mountains, in place of young man who was ill, to keep the The house in which Joseph Chambeain was born sixty-five years ago still

tands, and not far from it, in a quigrove at Camberwell, is the hous grove at Camberwell is the house in which he learned to seell and write his name. Close to them both lives the old lady who has still a \$275d memory of the Monday morning \$207d Joseph Chamber-lain first went to select, for a year the molding of Mr. Chamber-lain's mind was in the care of this lady, on whom Mr. Chamberlain has more than once called since he became a famous man.

## FOREIGN TOPICS.

It is almost impossible nowadays to pick ip a German newspaper without finding fresh evidence of the rapidity with which the cause of higher education for women advancing in that country. achievement of an American student, Miss Mary Williams Montgomery, in btaining her doctorate of philosophy cur laude, after a rigid examination which embraced the Oriental languages, including Turkish and Assyrian, will admitted-ly make the conditions confronting wemen at the University of Berlin easier to meet than hitherto. The success of a Frau Bornstein in obtaining a medical degree from the same institution has also attracted widespread attention, particularly as her son took the same examina with higher rank than eight male com with higher rank than eight male com-petitors. That the way of wemen dectors in Berlin is not yet smooth, however, is shown by the haling to court of seven who were practicing on the strength of degrees obtained at Zurich. They were accused of falsely registering themselves as doctors in the city directory, as only those holding German degrees are allowed this right. The doctors escaped punish-ment because of the expiration of the statutory time for such prosecutions-six months—and are now wondering whether they will be summoned again when the next directory appears.

The house at Auteuil, famous for years as the "Grenier de Goncourt," has just been brought under the hammer. It was there that the disciples of Edmond de Goncourt, a select few, the faithful among whom have been appointed to member-ship in the academy which still remains to be founded under the provisions of his will, gathered around him and listened to his rather caustic disquisitions on men and things. Most of the celebrated "Journal" of the Goncourts, the amusing "Journal" of the Goncourts, the amusing histoire scandaleuse of modern Paris, was marrated in the writer's "loft" before he committed it to paper. A famous literary landmark will now be effaced, as the old lady who has bought Goncourt's house for the small sum of \$12,000 purchased the place exclusively for her own convenience, and has no intention of preserving it as a monument to the influence exerted upon French literature by the great diluteria. French literature by the great dilettante who lived there.

A curious story comes from Vienna The son of a rich Jewish banker named Fleisher recently died and his body was brought with great ceremony to the synagogue for a most areate funeral. Just be-fore the coffin was carried out to be taken to the cemetery the father, despite it is against the sacred rites, had it opened that he might take one more look at his son. To his horror he discovered that it was not his son at all, but a stranger. was not his som at all, but a stranger. An investigation showed that through the help of some of the officials at the morgue a poor Jewish family who had lost a son at the same time had succeeded in substituting theirs for that of the rich man 'in order that their son might have a fine funeral." Late that evening after much searching the right body was found. It had been buried as a pauper.

The official organ of the Macedonian Central Committee at Sofia, the formi," publishes a leading article signed by M. Stojan Michailovsky, the provisional president of the committee, in which the Sultan is described as "the great mur-

Parisians, the much-talked-of Count de Lur-Saluces has been arrested, and is now seing entertained at the expense of the Republic. The royalist had not counted on this. Though he had been banished from France for ten years he imagined that the legal complications of his case would permit his taking matters in his own hands and playing with the wigs of the Palais de Justice about as he pleased Thinking a few months' absence sufficient to atone for his shortcomings, he snapped his fingers at the frontier guards and hastened to Paris to help his friends en hastened to Paris to help his friends enjoy the Chantilly races, Grand Prix, and other early summer festivities. He had been banking on the supposition that arrest would nollify his sentence, particularly that part of it which deals with the sequestration of his property. But French authorities soon showed him the folly of trusting to legal twists, and M. le Comte, after sampling a couple of boulevard suppers, was marched off to the Prison de la Sante.

The Spanish Minister for Foreign Af fairs, Duke Almodovar, contradicts the statement published abroad concerning Spain and certain foreign Powers, with a Morocco and the neutrality of the Straits of Gibraltar.

Spain, up to the present, has, the Minster asserts, declined to become en angled in Continental alliances, and de dres to preserve her present friendly reations with England. Her Government will naturally keep in touch with Span ish public opinion and national aspira tions in regard to Morocco, and will, therefore, be always disposed to act in concert with foreign Powers willing to help Spain in maintaining the territoria and political status quo in that country. The desire of Spain is to remain neutral ine desire or Spain is to remain neutral in European complications and in ques-ions that do not directly affect her in-crests, especially in the Mediterranean and North Africa.

As she understands her positions near libraltar, her Balearic and Canary Isles hight become tempting bases of opera-tion for other nations, her firm determina-tion for other nations, and control of the control of t

ion is to put her army, navy, and coast lefences in a better condition, so as to enforce respect for her own territory, wen if she has to do this by increasing her annual estimates. This is the opin-ion of most of the Spanish generals and statesmen and of all parties in the coun-During the last twenty-five years miliin Russia on all men from their twenty

first year. Out of about \$10,000 young mer reaching their majority every year some 87,000 are taken into the active army and the remainder are inscribed partly in the reserve and partly in the second reserve The term of service is in European Rus-

sia five years in the active army, thirteer years in the reserve, and five years in the 'zapas," seven years in the active army and six years in the reserve in Asiatic cominions and three years in the active rmy and fifteen in the reserve in Cauca-

army and litteen in the reserve in Caucasin.

In case of need the Minister of War has
the right of keeping the men under the
colors for another six months. College
men, doctors, and teachers are exempted
and certain privileges are granted on account of education. The lowest estimate
which can be made of the peace strength
of the Russian army puts the number of
officers at 35,000 and of the rank and file at
\$50,000 men, the total number being \$85,000.
In war the total strength is approximately
12,000 officers and 2,440,000 men, a total
of 3,500,000.

# ODD CUBAN SOCIETIES

From the number of societies, associa tions, gremios, and the like, which exists in Havana, one would be justified in a beief that every man in that city belonge o at least one organization of so social, professional, or of a trade or mu-tual benefit character. Secret organiza-tions, such as Masons and Odd Fellows have had little part in Cuba's social or ganism. This is due to the dominance of the Roman Catholic Church and its oposition to those institutions. But Cub has abounded, and still abounds, in orcriminal negro group of Nanigos, up to that admirable institution known as the Centro de Asturianos.

Of all of these, it is probable that n other presents quite as much of general interest as the Centro de Asturianos. It ome from the Spanish province of Astu rias. Other provinces are represented b uch associations as the Naturales de Galicia, with its membership from Baliia; the Naturales de Andalusia, the Cen tro Gallego, and a general organization called the Associacion de Dependientes, or clerks and employes. These present simi lar features and serve similar ends, but the Asturianes is easily the leader in many respects.

obtains the privilege of entrance to the hall of the Asturianos, America can show few halls to rival it. It extends, fifty feet or upward in width, along two the castern side of the Parque Central. Marble floored, columned, and mirrored, fitted with many costly crystal chande lers it is almost royal at any time, and is strikingly beautiful when profusely lighted. A handsome marble staircase eads to the first floor. There is the cale and billiard room, probably upward of two hundred feet in its total length and rty or more feet in width. A long bar cons along a portion of the inner wall. Small tables occupy about one-half the area. Drunkenness or disorder is almost unknown. Yet the class which freq the place is that which, in New York, produces and constitutes the "hoodlum. The drinking is after the Continenta fashion which makes the consumption of as few pennies' worth of light wine, a glass of sweetened water, or some cooling compound whose basis is fruit the ant chat or discussion. Cards or billiards, with or without similar drinks, are the entertainment of others. At the inner end of the room there is a small office where all the business of the institution s conducted.

is conducted.

On the floor above is the hall, with an elaborately furnished official room for the meetings of the directory. Upon this floor, also, there is a library. As the Spaniard is not addicted to diligent reading the library is a library. Spaniard is not addicted to diligent reading, the library is a name rather than a fact, though few use it for letter writing or newspaper reading. A noticeable and important feature is the might school system. Classes are gathered upon both floors, in small ante-rooms or in corners of the large halls. Here a group is learning English, there is one studying simple arithmetic, while a smaller group is taking lessons in elementary astronomy. A dozen or lifteen of these groups may be seen busily engaged every evening in the week.

For all this, each member pays the

belling in the final report, that during the princip of several ways, appear now period of severity years between 1955 and 187, while the mints of the jeading diactors a war to the kinfe. The one committees of the property of the control of the two metals in the London market had been no greater than the variation in the relative value of the two metals in the London market had been no greater than the variation. The property of the two metals in the London market had been no greater than the variation. The property of the two metals in the London market had been no greater than the variation. The property of the two metals in the London market had been no greater than the variation. The property of the prope

# POLITICAL COMMENT.

The chief sponsor of the anti-canteen aw has at last admitted that the law was responsible for an increase in dis-order at Fort Sheridan according to all but one soldier at the post. He strives to explain it, however, by alleging a de-termination on the part of officers to prosecute offences heretofore overlooked. That is the old "conspiracy" cry, and will not serve.—Providence Journal.

The assertion that Field Marshal the Count von Waldersee is the "Fighting Bob" of the German Empire is hardly accurate. The fact that he arrived after the fighting was over sufficiently points his resemblance to another commander In the same category on this side of the ocean.—Pittsburg Despatch. It is to be hoped, in case of war between

Venezuela and Colombia, that one of the combatants will make a mislick and cut the Isthmus of Panama in two.-Indian-Almost a million names on the nation's pension roll! One in every seventy-six of all the people of the United States a

pensioner! And yet there is a saying that Republies are ungrateful.—Boston It must be acknowledged that Roosevelt is importing a picturesqueness to his race for the Presidency which has not always been a feature of such contests. Presidential aspirants who bust bronchos and kill coyotes and travel vociferously in locomotive cabs are rare. It is certain at least that the next Republican cam-paign for the Presidency will not be dult if Teddy has any say about it.—St. Louis Republic

Then again it may be-who on earth can tell?-that President Schwab's real inten-tion with respect to Bethlehem Steel was to make a gift of the plant to Uncle Sam, instead of allowing the latter to erect an armor plate plant of his own.—Philadel-phia Inquirer.

Lord Kitchener makes no mistake when in writing of the Boer war he says:
"Great patience is still required to see
the inevitable end."—New York World. "War in the Philippines is about to end," says General MacArthur, What, again?-Hoston Herald.

Next month Vice President Roosevelt is booked for speeches in one Southern State, Georgia, and in three Northern States, Minnesota, Illinois, and Vermont. This time it's votes, not coyotes, that he's after, Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Germany has ordered a cruiser to Venexuelan waters, and if it were not for the old reliable Monroe Doctrine that is do-ing business in South America we might see some land-grabbing in the name of civilization.—Chicago News.

Germany is now having a turn with the loquacious warrior—the terrible fellow slaughters battalions with adjectives and lays army corps low with well-directed lays army corps low with wen-directed participles—and to do the Teutons justice they seem to relish the experience as lit-tic as Americans. At any rate, their newspapers are teiling Waldersee, with more emphasis than ceremony, to shut up. Norfolk Pilot -Norfolk Pilot.

It appears from our Washington correspondence published today that the Re-publicans will try to dodge the tariff issue at the next session of Congress. Of course, of course! The party depends so much on the trusts for the sinews of war that it cannot afford to deal them so deadly a blow as a reduction of the tariff would be.—Charleston News and Courier.

## SOCIETY.

Mrs. Condit-3mith has gone to New York to be with her sister, Mrs. Field, widow of Justice Stephen . of the Supreme Court, who is dangerously iii. Though Mrs. Field has been an invalid for some time, the immediate cause of her present illness is heart trouble. She is ever seventy years of age and her physicians have serious fears of the result.

The latest accounts from the executive Beekham, the young wife of the Governor, is so much improved that her physicians have hope of saving her life.

Mrs. George W. Cissel and her daugher, Mrs. John H. Roche, will spend the present month in Nova Scotia and Canada, and after visiting the Buffalo Ex-position will return to Oak Crest about September L.

Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Andrews have returned from a month's trip that included disits to Montreal, Niagara and the chain of northern lakes.

Mrs. Catherine V. Young and her laughter, Mrs. Bourne, who have been spending the summer in Canada, will re-turn late in September by way of Buffalo.

A despatch from London states that Mrs. Navarro, formerly Mary Anderso the actress, was the chief social attra on at a begar given yesterday by Lady tion at a bezar given .

Elcho at Wickhamford Manor to raise funds to restore Wickhamford Church.

Mr. Arthur Baifour was the guest of oner, but Mrs. Navarro, though shunning publicity, attracted more attention than the leader of the House of Commons One means of raising money was selling autographs written by the notables pres-ent. Though Balfour's handwriting sold well, Mrs. Navarro's autographs brought

well, Mrs. Navarro's autographs brought higher prices. Wickhamford is in Gloucesterships, where there are many beautiful country residences. The Navarros live in a little village named Broadway, near by. Balfour is a guest of the Elehos at their country place, four miles away. Mrs. Navarro arranged a dramatic entertainment in which the leading parts were taken by the children of Lady Eleho and Lady Blomfield.

Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Gotwald have returned from Atlantic City, where they have been spending the summer, to their residence here, 150 R Street northwest.

It has been explained that Mrs. Kep-el, who arrived in New York this week on the Teutonic, is not, as has been an-nounced, Mrs. George Keppel, wife of the Hon. George Keppel, who makes his home in New York in connection with Sir Thomas Lipton's interests, but is Mrs. Thomas Lipton's interests, but is Mrs. Colin Keppel, lady in waiting to the widowed Duchess of Saxe Coburg Gotha, and wife of Capt. Colin Keppel, of the royal navy, who distinguished himself at the battle of Khartoum in 1888, and in the Nile expedition of 1884, and who is a son of old Sir Harry Keppel, the father of the British navy. Mrs. Keppel left New York yesterday to Join her husband at Vancouver, where he holds an important navat command.

A quiet wedding took place at the resilence of Col. William O. Drew Tuesday evening, when his youngest daughter, Emma F., and Mr. Samuel T. Carroll

If the Republicans of the last Congress had been in favor of the policy of paying \$2,00,000 a year to half a score of ship owners, the Frye bill would have been a law before now. As a matter of fact, Senator Frye lost ground the more he labored. He was never able even to bring his bill to a vote, and there was open satisfaction among the Republican senators at his discomfiture. The bill was so victous in principle and so dangerous in tendency, opening the way as it did for a succession of special bounty schemes, that party leaders, while courteously silent in debate, felt thankful that they had been saved from a serious political blunder.

Discussion of the provisions of the Frye bill has thoroughly informed the public of its real purpose. A renewal of the attempt to push it through Congress will be a dangerous experiment. Against the active influence of the clique of favored individuals who hope to be made beneficiaries of the Government will be arrayed the great mass of honest public opinion which resents the singling out of a small number of profitable concerns for special regard at the expense of all the taxpayers. Senator Frye is doing the Republican party a great disservice by endeavoring to foist upon it in the guise of general legislation a bill drawn in the interests of a hare handful of prosperous ship owners.—Philadelphia North American.

# A KINDLY SUGGESTION.

In this connection it might be said that is anxious to put an end to the polygamous practices of the Sultan of Sulu it would be well to get the wives of that potentate interested in jewelry and fine clothes. A few of the American fashion journals with their colored plates might be regularly smuggled into the harem, if there is no other way of arousing the desires of those twelve brown ladies for "refined ornaments." Once let them begin calling in dressmakers and rushing at bargain counters and how for will the Suitan's salary of 867 a month reach?

Was it A. Ward who said that one millinery shop in Sait Lake City would do more to knock polygamy out of Mormon life than all the statutes Congress could pass in a century?—Chicago Record-Heraid. potentate interested in jewelry and fine

# WANTED, A CLIMATE,

While the local authorities are devising ways and means to render the District of Columbia attractive and sanitary a move is inaugurated among the foreign legations to render it imposing and picturesque. The legations are subjected to extortion so flagrant in rents that they have resolved to recommend to their respective Governments erection of permanent official buildings, to be the properly of the Governments sending representatives. It is expected that each legation will build in a style characteristic of its country, thus lending to the Capital an architectural variety cosmopolitism and instructive. If they could co-operate with the local authorities in giving Washington a climate lit for more than four months in twelve they would confer a still larger favor upon the nation.—Chicago Chronicle. turesque. The legations are subjected to

# AN EXPLANATION.

Latest of the many theories as to the Navy Department's hostility to Admiral Schley is one presented yesterday by our Washington correspondent, to the effect that the admiral is likely to focus attention on the lamentable results of jealousy tion on the lamentable results of jealousy between our land and sea forces. Be-cause of that feeling, if this theory be true, the navy hunted for the Spanish fleet for days after the army had told it exactly where Cervera was, and from the play at cross purposes all the trouble and confusion arose. This is not an agree-able explanation of the situation, but, alas, it does explain.—New York Times.